

state is to say that Israel will exist either as a Jewish state or a democratic state, but not both. Or it could be implicitly saying that the Palestinian people will somehow cease to exist. This is troubling, particularly in light of the fact that so many in the Israeli government have openly discussed the prospect of driving Palestinians out of their homes as a means to solving this conflict. Mr. Speaker, we should state openly as President Bush has stated, that the United States will never tolerate the forceful removal of Palestinian people. Driving the Palestinian people out of the occupied territories is not an option.

Mr. Speaker, there is a solution to the paradox of the occupation. This solution would allow Israel to be both fully Jewish and fully democratic. It would dispel forever the notion that Israel has no right to exist, and it would take away the fear of so many Palestinians that they will one day be driven out of their homes. This solution is, as the President has articulated so many times, to have "two states living side by side" in a climate of peace and security. For the first time in the history of this conflict, this vision has become possible. Based on the formula of land for peace, Saudi Arabia has led the Arab states in an unequivocal call for peace with Israel in exchange for an end to the occupation of pre-1967 Arab lands. Can you imagine, Mr. Speaker, how different this troubling region could be if all states were to live together in peace and security? The Middle East would change beyond our imagination.

This change is possible, but only if both sides are given a fair shake in working out a lasting agreement. We need to make the right decisions now, without the taint of political agendas, to create a lasting peace for the future children of Israel and Palestine.

HONORING REVEREND JOHN G. SIMMONS

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Reverend John G. Simmons. For over 60 years now, Reverend Simmons has dedicated himself to the causes of peace and justice throughout his community and in honor of his achievements, the Reverend John G. Simmons Opportunity House will be dedicated on May 16, 2002. The Opportunity House will serve as a treatment facility for the Mentally Ill Offenders Program.

Born in Mountain Grove, Missouri, Reverend Simmons is a graduate of Drake University, Luther Seminary, University of Chicago and the University of Southern California. A devoted family man, he is married to Bethend Simmons and together they have three children—Johnny, Ginger and James. Rev. Simmons is also the proud stepfather to four children—Linda, Tylon, Paul and Karen. His eight grandchildren are his great pride.

Reverend Simmons has been an outspoken advocate and proponent for individuals and families in need of affordable housing and health care, specialized health needs and reasoned, caring healthcare practitioners. He has served on the Board of Directors of the Pacoima Memorial Lutheran Hospital, the

Sunair Children's Foundation and is the Founder of the Golden State Community Mental Health Center and the Los Angeles Family Housing-Valley Shelter.

Along with his dedication to healthcare and housing, Rev. Simmons has also pledged his support to education. As a founder of Casa Loma College, an institution dedicated to licensing vocational nurses, certified nurses and home health aides, he has ensured that qualified and experienced nurses are available to meet the health needs of at-risk individuals. He is also the founder of California Lutheran University, which is dedicated to the educational needs of students throughout the world.

As a strong advocate of social justice, civil liberties and civil rights, Reverend Simmons has been active in the ACLU, NAACP, Amnesty International, the Lutheran Peace Fellowship, L.A. County Commission on Human Relations and the Medical Committee for Civil Rights.

It is with great honor that I ask all Members to join with me in congratulating the Reverend John G. Simmons for his life's dedication to the social welfare of his community and on the dedication of the Rev. John G. Simmons Opportunity House.

IN RECOGNITION OF "A CHILD IS MISSING"

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I have recently come into contact with "A Child Is Missing," a public/private partnership founded by Sherry Friedlander and sponsored by several prestigious organizations such as the City of Fort Lauderdale and the Florida Police Chiefs Association, among others. I am proud of the people of Florida and their support for this organization, and its service to the general public and the law enforcement community of my home state.

A Child Is Missing is an organization currently working in the state of Florida, whose purpose is to aid the law enforcement authorities to locate missing children, elderly, and people with disabilities. Their mode of work: once a report has been filed of a missing child, elderly, or person with disabilities, the law enforcement agency may call "A Child Is Missing" and give the specifics of the case. Within the hour, "A Child Is Missing" calls and relays an automatic phone message to phone numbers located within the area where the person was last seen. The phone message gives a description of the person, informs of their disappearance, and provides the phone number of the closest law enforcement agency in the area.

"A Child Is Missing's" technology is state of the art, their mode of operation simple and impressively fast. Their degree of effectiveness is so high that in a five-year period their radius of action has increased from a local to a state level, and they are currently trying to make their systems operate nationwide.

It is therefore no surprise to me that police Chief Edward Morley has said, speaking of the case of a missing boy, "The role of 'A Child Is Missing' was instrumental in reuniting him quickly with his family."

I applaud the founders, sponsors and workers of "A Child Is Missing." They have given us an opportunity to help the community, and this is why I am a supporter of this initiative. I look forward to seeing this Florida initiative expanded nationwide.

RECOGNIZING KYLE J. FRIES ON HIS APPOINTMENT TO THE U.S. MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMY

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize my constituent, Kyle J. Fries of Bellevue, Ohio, who recently accepted his appointment to the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, New York.

Kyle will soon graduate from Bellevue High School. During his high school career, he has maintained a high grade point average, and currently is attending Firelands Branch of Bowling Green State University under the Post Secondary Education Option. And, he has clearly demonstrated his leadership ability, earning the rank of Eagle Scout and serving as a delegate to Buckeye Boys State.

Kyle Fries can be very proud of his many accomplishments. He is a credit to his family, his school, and his community. By accepting his appointment, Kyle is accepting a unique challenge.

The Academy is the pinnacle of leadership development for the United States Maritime Service. As a USMMA midshipman, he will face a most demanding academic curriculum and physical regimen. He will live, study and prepare in an environment where strong leadership thrives, individual achievement is expected, and personal integrity is demanded.

Mr. Speaker, General John W. Vessey, Jr. once wrote, "The Nation's ability to remain free and at peace depends in no small measure on whether we will continue to inspire our youth to serve."

I am confident that Kyle Fries has the character and ability to excel at the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing him well as he begins his very important service to our nation at Kings Point.

TRIBUTE TO RURAL/METRO MEDICAL SERVICES OF ROCHESTER ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 50TH YEAR IN BUSINESS

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Rural/Metro Medical Services of Rochester as it celebrates its 50th year of service to our community.

Rural/Metro Medical Services is a Rochester success story that deserves to be shared. Originally founded as National Ambulance of Rochester by George S. Heisel, Jr. in 1952, Rural/Metro has grown into a model of excellence for the delivery of emergency medical services. For half a century, thousands of